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NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

 PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

INDEXES TO SCIENTIFIC PERIODICALS.

An index to the volumes of the *Vierteljahrsschrift der Astronomischen Gesellschaft* from Volume I (1866) to Volume XXV (1890) is now in course of preparation, and it will supply a real want.

An index to the *Memorie della Società Spettroscopisti Italiani* is very much needed from its Volume I (1872) onwards. It is possible that some of our members who are familiar with Italian might be willing to charge themselves with this useful work, and I have no doubt that the editor (Professor TACCHINI) would welcome such assistance. If any of our members are willing to undertake any such pieces of work, I shall be pleased to aid them in any way in my power. The example of the *American Journal of Science*, which prints a complete index every ten years, is an excellent one to follow. If such a thing as uniformity in this matter were to be hoped for at all, it would not be difficult to propose a general plan for indexing scientific journals which might meet with approval. My own idea would be to provide each separate volume with its index, as at present, and to print a general index to preceding volumes every even decade;—in the volumes for 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, etc.

In the library of the United States Naval Observatory at Washington, and in the library of the Lick Observatory I introduced the plan of distinguishing every such "Index-Volume" with a special mark on its back, so that a long series, like that of the Paris Academy of Sciences, for example (1666–1890), can be quickly examined. This very simple device saves much time and annoyance, and is worth the attention of librarians.

E. S. H.

INDEX TO THE URANOMETRIES OF ARGELANDER, HEIS AND GOULD.

No one can use the Uranometries of ARGELANDER and GOULD without wishing for an alphabetical index to the constellations which shall give the page where each one is to be found. I have long used such an index, which is printed below, and I am sure that it has saved me much time and no little annoyance. It is advisable to copy it into each work, once for all. HEIS and BEHRMANN have been careful to provide an index to their Uranometries (on the last